

The Frederick Group LLC.



MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FROM: MICHAEL FREDERICK, REPRESENTING MICHIGAN HBPA
SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILLS 955 - 958
DATE: 10/29/2009

On behalf of the Michigan Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association (HBPA), we support Senate Bills 955 - 958.

The equine industry in Michigan is primarily an agricultural function. The industry is more than simply pari-mutuel wagering. It involves the raising, breeding, and training of equine and impacts nearly every community in Michigan. Our members are owners, trainers, breeders, and jockeys. The recent Executive Order which moves the ORC under the Michigan Gaming Control Board makes no sense as they are a regulatory body and not focused on promoting the equine industry as is the the Department of Agriculture.

Please help protect agriculture by keeping the promotion and regulation of the equine industry under the auspices of the Michigan Department of Agriculture by supporting these important bills, Senate Bills 955 - 958. The Michigan HBPA supports Senate Bills 955 - 958 and we ask for your support.